

homes and many individuals are still missing. Some survivors compare the site of the flames to the gates of hell.

This year alone, California has seen over 2,600 more fires and a nearly 2,000 percent increase in the acres burned compared to this time last year. That is according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, or Cal-Fire.

The frequency and intensity are no accident. We used to refer to early fall as “wildfire season” but the threat of these fires is now present throughout the year.

In San Diego and in other areas of Southern California, dry and arid conditions, paired with high temperatures, can make for a deadly combination. The Valley fire in eastern San Diego County, which is now 87 percent contained, burned almost 18,000 acres of land and prompted the closure of the Cleveland National Forest.

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That fire started 10 days ago, but smoke and haze across the county are barely now beginning to clear. The air quality continues to pose a risk for sensitive groups. This fire is only the latest in a long history of destructive fires in San Diego County.

I call on my fellow Members of Congress to accept and recognize this truth: Our actions don't exist in a vacuum. The consequences of our actions lead to rising temperatures and more extreme natural events, including hurricanes, droughts, and flooding.

It is not a matter of belief. Yearly patterns show us how these changes aren't natural. They are man-made. They are climate change.

We owe it to every single firefighter and first responder to act on this issue now. Every day, they risk their lives in the blistering heat, not knowing if they will make it back home. We are beyond grateful for their bravery and their unwavering dedication to public safety.

These conditions leading to the devastation on the West Coast are preventable, but the only way forward is through bipartisan partnerships to address the key drivers of climate change. Saving lives, infrastructure, and our lands from the effects of severe weather require concrete and swift action on the climate crisis now.

RECOGNIZING ALICE JOHNSON ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the birthday of an extraordinary constituent and American hero.

She is a World War II veteran, a U.S. Army Corps nurse, a Purple Heart recipient, a proud American patriot, an activity community member, and a birthday card enthusiast.

She is the remarkable Alice Johnson of Rancho Bernardo, California. I commend her service to our country, love of adventure, dedication to the well-being of others, and fun-loving spirit as she reaches this momentous milestone of 100 years.

Alice Johnson was born on September 12, 1920, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She completed her nursing education in 1941.

After Pearl Harbor, she enlisted in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. Her unit arrived in Okinawa, Japan, on Easter Sunday in 1945, where she helped establish a field hospital ahead of the U.S. invasion of Japan.

A few months later, eight Japanese Kamikaze planes descended upon the island, and U.S. troops attempted to shoot them down. Alice was injured in the crossfire and evacuated to Hawaii for surgery. She was awarded a Purple Heart after her service overseas.

Later in life, Alice served as a flight attendant for United Airlines, back when flight attendants were required to be nurses.

Always interested in nursing and travel, she accepted a nursing position at a hospital in Aruba. There, she met and married John Johnson, and together, they had four children.

Alice moved back to the U.S. and continued her nursing career at a private cancer practice, at a burn hospital, and as a public health nurse for vision and hearing tests in schools.

After her retirement, Alice settled in Rancho Bernardo, California, near her family, and remains active, attending Hope United Methodist Church, square dancing with friends, and playing mah-jong at the Poway Senior Center.

Her daughter, Elaine, and son-in-law, Bill, reached out to me to share her life stories worthy of celebration as she becomes a centenarian.

I am overjoyed to wish Alice Johnson the very happiest 100th birthday. On behalf of the constituents of California's 52nd District, we honor her selfless service in World War II, her dedicated career as a nurse, and the joy she continuously brings to all who know her.

I wish a happy 100th birthday to Alice. She is a treasure to us all.

HONORING DOLORES GRESHAM FOR HER REMARKABLE SERVICE TO WEST TENNESSEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. KUSTOFF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor a terrific Tennessee leader, State Senator Dolores Gresham, who will be retiring from public service this year.

My friend, Senator Dolores Gresham, has been a strong leader in west Tennessee for many years, and I have great respect for her strong career of service and her tireless leadership in education. Dolores Gresham has been highly influential in the political, social, and civic life in west Tennessee.

Before she entered public service as an elected official, Senator Gresham proudly served our country as a member of the United States Marine Corps and retired at the rank of lieutenant colonel.

A champion for education in Tennessee, Dolores Gresham presided over and led the Tennessee State Education Committee during a time of great improvement in academic achievement in the history of the Volunteer State.

Senator Gresham has proved to everyone that citizens can make a difference by being involved in community service and by leading by example.

Roberta and I wish her and her husband, Will, the best in their retirement. We appreciate her friendship, and we greatly appreciate her public service to the Volunteer State.

HONORING ANDY HOLT FOR HIS STRONG SERVICE TO WEST TENNESSEE

Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend and Tennessee State Representative Andy Holt. Andy is retiring this year from the Tennessee State legislature.

Representative Andy Holt has been a leader and an outspoken voice in the Tennessee State House since his first term began in 2011.

Representative Holt's work on the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, his involvement with the Tennessee Farm Bureau—and I can't forget his famous Hogfest—were all critical in bringing national attention to west Tennessee's agricultural community.

Andy has served as a member of the Finance, Ways and Means Subcommittee, which is a vital committee that helps craft the Tennessee State budget.

Andy Holt has also been a strong voice in the Tennessee State Capitol and has never shied away from speaking and living out his values.

He was part of numerous monumental pieces of legislation, such as the enhanced concealed carry permit and the heartbeat bill, and helped successfully repeal a portion of the Tennessee professional privilege tax.

No matter the politics of an issue, Andy Holt always stood up for what he believed in and always put his west Tennessee family values first.

I am honored to call Andy Holt a friend of mine. He truly understands and cares about the needs of Tennesseans, and he will be sorely missed in the Tennessee State legislature.

Roberta and I wish Andy, his wife, Ellie, and his entire family well as he leaves the stage of public service. I thank Andy for his faithful service to west Tennessee, to Tennessee State government, and to the State of Tennessee.

HONORING MRS. SUZETTE MINK'S PUBLIC SERVICE TO WEST TENNESSEE

Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Suzette Mink, from Millington, Tennessee, for her strong service to Shelby County government as she is set to retire in a few weeks.

Suzette's service to Memphis and Shelby County started in 1985 when she began working for the Shelby County Trustee's Office. From there, she

worked for the Shelby County general sessions court clerk, the general sessions criminal court judges' office, and then the general sessions civil court judges' office, where she will retire after 17 years of faithful service to these judges.

In 2019, Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris awarded Suzette with the Shelby County Shining Star Award. This award is given to someone who has shown exemplary dedication to their job within Shelby County government, and this award was much deserved.

I know I speak on behalf of all of Memphis and Shelby County, and the judges, when I thank Suzette for her service to our community. When I think of true public servants, we talk about people like Suzette.

I wish her and her husband, Derrick, the best in their retirement.

HONORING VETERANS COMMUNITY LIVING CENTER AT FITZSIMONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. Crow) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the staff and residents of the Veterans Community Living Center in Aurora, Colorado. This Colorado veterans home has cared for veterans, veteran spouses, and Gold Star parents for over 18 years.

The staff at Fitzsimons has acted heroically during this pandemic, risking exposure, facing fears, and continuing to show up for their residents and co-workers. Since March, 26 employees have tested positive, and most have returned to work.

This dedicated team has pioneered new ways of connecting veterans to their communities, including drive-by vintage car shows and coordinating phone calls and Skype visits with family and friends.

We do mourn the loss of 25 veterans who lost their lives to the virus and celebrate the lifetime of selfless service all veterans who live at Fitzsimons have made.

It is with pride that I recognize the staff and residents at the Veterans Community Living Center at Fitzsimons.

RECOGNIZING SALUD FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Salud Family Health Centers on its 50th anniversary.

Salud was founded in 1970 to serve the migrant and seasonal farmworker population living and working in and around Fort Lupton, Colorado. Today, Salud operates 13 clinics and a mobile unit in 10 predominantly rural communities throughout northern and southeastern Colorado, serving over 82,000 patients annually.

Salud has grown to provide medical, dental, behavioral health, women's care, pediatric care, and on-site pharmacy services. Prior to COVID, Salud also operated 11 school-based sites to

better serve the needs of the community.

Salud's mobile unit travels mostly rural areas during the evenings to provide quality healthcare to seasonal and migrant workers. In its 50 years, Salud has served 2 million patients.

I am proud to have Salud Family Health Centers serving the people of the Sixth Congressional District.

APPLAUDING AURORA MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we observe Hunger Action Month throughout September to applaud the work of the Aurora Mobile Food Pantry.

While the food pantry is a crucial support system to our community at the best of times, it has been a lifeline to those experiencing hunger during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This summer, Aurora Mobile Food Pantry and its community partners, along with over 750 volunteers, provided more than 475,000 meals to our community. In addition to providing healthy food, more than 30,000 community members who visited the mobile food pantry received 37,000 pounds of pet food, 2,800 books for children, 5,400 water bottles, and \$47,000 worth of diapers and baby wipes.

All told, the Aurora Mobile Food Pantry has provided more than \$1 million in food to our community during COVID-19. It serves as a reminder of what can happen when Coloradans come together to support one another in times of need.

RECOGNIZING HEROISM OF MANJIT SINGH

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Manjit Singh.

Manjit Singh immigrated to my district from India in 2018 in search of the American Dream. On Wednesday, August 5, Manjit died a hero.

After his first day of truck driving school, Manjit was with his family and friends at Reedley Beach near his new home in California. He saw three children caught in the current of the Kings River and selflessly rushed in to help them.

Manjit did not know how to swim, but he knew bravery. Witnesses say he helped pull one of the three children to safety and endeavored to assist another.

While all of them have recovered, an 8-year-old girl named Samantha would later lose her life. I grieve for her and her family.

I stand amazed by Manjit's sacrifice, and I am grateful to his community for recognizing the heroism he demonstrated that day. I am inspired by the humanity and compassion that link all of us together.

DELAYED DIAGNOSIS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, during the coronavirus pan-

demic, American doctors, nurses, technicians, and first responders have cared for patients day in and day out. On the front lines, medical teams have worked tirelessly to care for the coronavirus patients under extraordinary circumstances.

Across the country, we formed a united front against an invisible enemy as medical professions of all stripes pitched in to help, from volunteering their time to donating valuable personal protective equipment to the emergency rooms, the hospitals, and the organizations that needed it the most.

As Americans were asked to stay at home, teams quickly transitioned to telemedicine to provide vital care to vulnerable populations. They took the initiative and developed creative solutions to ensure that patients could receive the care that they so much need.

During this crisis, America's medical community has stepped up during and throughout to provide care and save lives. They truly, too, are heroes.

Now, the work continues. We must acknowledge a secondary healthcare crisis that is occurring in our Nation.

Beginning in March, many hospitals, under the direction of national, State, and local authorities, postponed elective procedures with the goal of slowing the spread of the virus and saving the precious PPE and supplies for those who needed it the most.

Americans, following stay-at-home orders, delayed important medical care, and subsequently, too many have suffered negative healthcare outcomes that could have been prevented.

Earlier this spring, I wrote a letter to Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, urging him and his administration to prioritize the comprehensive health needs of all Pennsylvanians during this crisis.

In my experience alone, I have heard tragic stories from colleagues whose patients have died from cardiac emergencies, from drug overdoses, and from other negative outcomes that could have been prevented.

Six months into this crisis, we are facing an imminent need to restore America's full access to care, including preventive screenings.

My good friend and colleague, Dr. Bruce Waldholtz, is a gastroenterologist and also a longtime volunteer leader of the American Cancer Society. Dr. Waldholtz, as a cancer survivor himself, understands firsthand that a doctor, a patient, needs preventative healthcare.

As he told me this week: "Due to the COVID restrictions, all nonemergency colonoscopies were canceled for several months. Literally, hundreds of patients in our practice had their colonoscopies canceled. This delay, compounded nationally, will result in less screening and an increase in colon cancer cases right now and in years ahead."

Colonoscopies and other preventative screenings save lives. Elective procedures are not unnecessary, and in